(b) and (c) The Bullet Proof Jackets developed by DRDO met the Qualitative Requirements (QRs) given by the Users. These are available in different configurations and provide different levels of protection. These have been designed to ensure proper fitting to enable the wearer to perform his operational tasks without any hindrance as per QRs given.

Recruitment of women officers in IAF

903. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken to recruit more women officers and pilots; and

(b) the allocation made to them?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) Concerted efforts have been undertaken by the Indian Air Force to carry out a proactive publicity campaign in order to reach the target group across the country, which includes potential women candidates and pilots. Apart from the Short Service Commission Scheme, the Government has also recently decided to offer Permanent Commission to eligible and suitable women officers in Judge Advocate General (JAG) and Army Education Corps (AEC) in the Army and their corresponding Branch/Cadre in Navy and Air Force, Accounts branch of the IAF and Naval Constructor of the Navy.

As per the Government sanction for induction of women officers under the Short Service Commission Scheme, there is a ceiling of 10% on intake in technical branch and 15% in non-technical branch. In the flying branch there is a combined ceiling of 20% for both Men and Women officers.

Indigenous production in defence sector

904. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the indigenous production during the last four years; and

(b) the amount spent on such production and contracts given to foreign companies and domestic companies during the period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Generating electricity from sea-water

†905. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Institute of Ocean Technology is working in the direction of generating electricity from sea water;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether any cost effective analysis has been made in this regard;

(d) whether Government is considering to establish pilot projects for this purpose in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. The Ministry of Earth Sciences is not considering to establish any pilot project for generating electricity from seawater.

(e) Does not arise.

Upgradation of NRC in Assam

906. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of upgradation of the National Register for Citizen (NRC) in Assam as well as target set for completion of the Border fencing between India and Bangladesh; and

(b) the details of present status of the declaration made during the tripartite discussion made between AASU, Government of Assam and Government of India in June, 2005?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) The Government of Assam has initiated steps for updating of the National Register of Citizens (NRC) 1951 on the basis of the relevant records. The Central Government has also provided a sum of Rs. 3.02 crore to the Government of Assam for computerization of the relevant records. The State Government has submitted modalities for updating of NRC in January, 2009, which are under examination. As far as construction of fencing along the Indo-Bangladesh border is concerned, it is expected that the construction work of fencing would be completed by 31.3.2010.

(b) Details of follow up on decisions taken in the tripartite meeting held on 5th May, 2005 between Central Government, Government of Assam and representatives of All Assam Students Union (AASU) are given in the Statement.

Statement

Details of follow up action on decisions taken in the Tripartite meeting held on 5.5.2005

1. The Government of Assam has initiated action for updating of National Register of Citizens (NRC) 1951 on the basis of the relevant records. Steps are being taken to ensure that the work of updating the NRC is undertaken at the earliest.

2. As on 30.11.2008, out of 3436.87 km fencing sanctioned along Indo-Bangladesh border, 2636.66 km of border fence has been completed. In Assam sector, out of 223.81 kilometer